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SUBJECT

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USSR Procurement of Tin in Hong Kong and Macao

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SUPPLEMENT TO

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- Ivanchenko, Eksportkhleb representative in Hong Kong, who has been purchasing tin through the Yangtze Supply Comporation\*, has stated that the USSR wants all tin purchases and shipments handled secretly. This may be the result of the Soviet fear that if all tin purchases are made public, the Combined Tin Committee may take steps to control all tin passing through Hong Kong to make sure that none gets to the USSR. \*\*
- Exing the first three quarters of 1949, only one tin shipment was recorded by the Hong Kong Government as having gone to the USSR. This amounted to 60 metric tons, and occurred during the second quarter. The company that sold the tin is reported to have informed the government of the sale, thereby occasioning some concern in the Yangtze Supply Corporation. Shipments To be to the USSR durin; the third quarter were not recorded by the Hong Kong Government.\*\*\* However, it is reported that a total of at least 200 tons of tin was purchased during this period, of which 40 tons was shipped. The reminder may either have been shipped or stored in warehouses. There was also a shipment which had a Hong Kong Government exchange surrender certificate with the destination given as a New York firm, but the tin was shapped to Chinnampo, North Korea, and did not appear in the Hong Kong Government trads figures for the third quarter of 1949. USSR tin shipments prior to 1 Sevember 1949 had Chinese Government export permits. The Soviet vessels ALDAT, AZOV ma AZAIVOSKY, were reported to have loaded tungsten and tin in Hong Kong and Macao. \*\*\*\*
- The principal shipments of tin from Macao have gone to the USSi, which in 1948 received at least 800 tons from Macao. The leading firms making these shirments were the Yung Dah Corpany of Macao, the Sui Cheng International Trading Company of Hong Kong was, and the Hong Kong-Canton Export Company of Hong Kong.
- The Yangtze Supply Company Corporation also handles tin shipments from Macao.

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Approved For Release 2001/03/17 : CIA-RDP82-00457R004100430004-9 SECRET/COMPROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY CEPTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY 25X1A Tungsten concentrate purchases have been made more 25X1A 25X1A \*\*\* 25X1A 25X1A Comment. reports that in 1949 all shipments of tungsten and tin were made in Soviet vessels. 25X1A 25X1A 25X1A Comment. 25X1A reported these two companies as the Hung Jan and the Snicheng International Trading Company, Limited.